

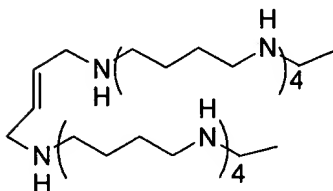
REMARKS

With the entry of the amendments above, claims 1-6 and 16-31 are pending in this application. Claims 7-15 have been canceled. Claims 17-31 are subject to a restriction requirement and are withdrawn from consideration. Claim 32 is newly presented, but belongs to the non-elected invention of Group II as defined by the Restriction Requirement (Paper No. 8) mailed October 1, 2002, and thus is withdrawn from consideration by the Applicants under 37 C.F.R. § 1.145. Accordingly, claims 1-6 and 16 are under consideration in this application.

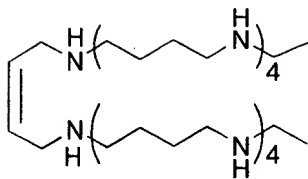
As claims 17-23 and 32 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1, Applicants respectfully request, should claims 1-6 and 16 be found allowable, that the method claims 17-23 and 32 be rejoined with claims 1-6 and 16 as permitted by MPEP 821.04.

Claims 1 and 3 have been amended, *inter alia*, to limit the “A” moieties in the polyamines to a single bond, C₁-C₆ alkyl, or C₂-C₆ alkenyl, by deletion of the remaining functional groups; claim 5 has been amended, *inter alia*, to limit the “A” moieties to a single bond or C₂-C₆ alkenyl. New claim 32 is supported by original claim 20 and at page 14, lines 27-28 of the instant specification. No new matter has been added by these amendments. No fees are believed to be due with this amendment; any fees due for added dependent claim 32 are offset by cancellation of the nine claims 7-15, for which fees have already been paid.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that the elected species



and its isomer



constitute allowable subject matter.

Preliminary amendment not entered

A preliminary amendment was filed in this application on December 16, 2002 at the following facsimile number: 703-308-4556. The facsimile transmission report indicated that the facsimile was successfully received. However, the facsimile amendment does not appear to have been entered.

As examination of the application has proceeded without entry of the amendment, the Applicants would like to officially withdraw the amendment.

The undersigned agent contacted the Examiner at 703-305-7129 on May 8, 2003 and left a telephone message indicating that the amendment would be withdrawn. Should the Office require a copy of the unentered amendment, please contact the undersigned agent.

Claim rejections

Claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 3,773,833 (Henrici et al.).

This rejection is respectfully traversed. The polyamines of the instantly claimed invention contain only secondary amines as interior nitrogens. (“Interior” nitrogens are the nitrogens which are flanked by two other nitrogen-containing chains, while “exterior” nitrogens are flanked by only one other nitrogen-containing chain.) For example, with N_(int) designating the “interior” nitrogens and N_(ext) designating the “exterior” nitrogens, the structure of claim 1 of the instant invention is labeled as follows:

E-N_(ext)H-B-A-B-N_(int)H-B-A-B-N_(int)H-B-A-B-N_(int)H-B-A-B-N_(ext)H-E .

In contrast, the polyamines of Henrici et al. contain tertiary amines as the interior nitrogens (see, for example, column 1, lines 10-30 of U.S. 3,733,833).

Accordingly, as the invention is not identically disclosed in the Henrici et al. patent, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that the issue raised in the Office Action mailed February 12, 2003 (Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)) has been addressed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any concerns that may be addressed by a telephone conference, he is invited to call the undersigned agent at 1-213-892-5615.

In the event that the Patent Office determines that an extension, excess claim fees, and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 376462000400. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 12, 2003

By: 

Robert K. Cerpa
Registration No. 39,933

Morrison & Foerster LLP
555 West Fifth Street
Suite 3500
Los Angeles, California 90013-1024
Telephone: (213) 892-5615
Facsimile: (213) 892-5454